

REMARKS

Claims 1-26 were pending in this application. Claims 1-14, 16-22, and 24 are allowed. Claims 15, 23, 25 and 26 stand rejected. Claims 15, 23, 25 and 26 were amended. Claims 1-26 remain in the application.

Claims 15, 23, and 25-26 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 101 as being directed to non-statutory subject matter. The rejection states:

"Claims 15, 23, & 25-26 are drawn to functional descriptive material (matrices used in a halftoning process). However, the claimed matrices themselves merely comprise data without a limitation to a practical application in the technological arts (i.e. no means or method of executing the associated halftoning process is actually recited in the claim)."

Claims 15, 23, 25 and 26 have each been amended to recite "A method for halftoning a multi-channel digital color image ..." and to include a step of "providing a set of ..." The amended language is supported by the original claims.

It is believed that these changes now make the claims clear and definite and, if there are any problems with these changes, Applicants' attorney would appreciate a telephone call.

In view of the foregoing, it is believed none of the references, taken singly or in combination, disclose the claimed invention. Accordingly, this application is believed to be in condition for allowance, the notice of which is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,



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